

CLAIMS

1. A golf tee comprising a shaft adapted for insertion into a surface of ground, a pivotable support portion mounted atop an upper end of the shaft, the pivotable support portion having a plurality of upright prong members mounted thereupon, the prong members being adapted in use to support a golf ball placed thereon.
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2. A golf tee in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that the pivotable support portion is threadingly engaged with the upper end of the shaft.
3. A golf tee in accordance with any one of the preceding claims, characterised in
10 that the pivotable support portion has an upper portion and a lower portion, wherein the upper portion includes a pivotable portion.
4. A golf tee in accordance with claim 3, characterised in that the pivotable portion is pivotably mounted adjacent the upper end of the shaft by a pivotable connection means.
- 15 5. A golf tee in accordance with claim 4, characterised in that the pivotable connection means is a ball and socket assembly.
6. A golf tee in accordance any of claims 3 to 5, characterised in that the lower portion of the pivotable support portion is provided with a socket, wherein the pivotable portion is complementary in configuration to the socket, the pivotable portion of the upper portion being adapted to be engagingly received by the socket.
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7. A golf tee in accordance with any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the shaft is provided with a stopper portion disposed adjacent to the upper end of the shaft.

8. A golf tee in accordance with claim 6, characterised in that the stopper portion is provided with a downwardly sloping surface.
9. A golf tee in accordance with claim 7, characterised in that the downwardly sloping surface has a gradient of 25° to the horizontal.
- 5 9. A golf tee in accordance with any of claims 7 to 8, characterised in that the stopper portion is provided with a guidance marker, wherein the guidance marker is disposed diametrically opposite the downwardly sloping surface.
10. A golf tee in accordance with any of claims 6 to 9, characterised in that the stopper portion is provided with a plurality of leg portions extending downwardly from a lower surface thereof.
11. A golf tee comprising a base portion with at least one cavity and at least one pivotable support portion pivotably mounted on an upper surface thereof, the or each pivotable support portion having a plurality of upright prong members mounted thereupon, the prong members being adapted in use to support a golf ball placed thereupon, wherein the or each pivotable support member is receivable within the cavity.
12. A golf tee in accordance with any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the pivotable support portion has three prong members mounted thereupon.
13. A golf tee in accordance with any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that each prong member has a pointed portion at an upper end thereof.
- 20 14. A golf tee in accordance with claim 14, characterised in that each pointed portion is substantially conical.
15. A golf tee in accordance with any one of the preceding, characterised in that the prong members are equidistantly and equiangularly arranged upon the pivotable

support portion in a substantially annular configuration, thereby forming a support surface to support a golf ball placed thereupon, whilst maintaining minimal contact therewith.

16. A golf tee in accordance with any of the preceding claims, characterised in that
5 the prong members are arranged in close proximity to each other upon the pivotable support member, the arrangement of the prong members defining a space therebetween, wherein a golf ball placed atop the prong members has minimal surface area disposed within the space.
17. A golf tee in accordance with any one of the preceding claims, characterised in
10 that a longitudinal length of the plurality of prong members on a single pivotable support portion is substantially the same.
18. A golf tee in accordance with any one of the preceding claims, characterised in...
that the longitudinal length of the prong members is variable and selected to suit a particular intended golf stroke.
- 15 19. A golf tee in accordance with any one of claims 11 to 19, characterised in that the base portion comprises a first portion having a substantially horizontal upper surface, and a second portion having a downwardly sloping surface.
20. A golf tee in accordance with claim 20, characterised in that the downwardly sloping surface has a gradient of 25° to the horizontal.
- 20 21. A golf tee in accordance with any one of claims 11 to 20, characterised in that the base portion has three pivotable portions pivotably mounted thereupon.